

Sangamon Valley LEPC

*P.O. Box 2105, 2801 N. Fifth Street
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AGENDA

March 17, 2011

8:30 AM

*Office of the State Fire Marshal
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703*

Meeting Called to Order by David Butt, Chairman

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (01/20/2011)

Introductions

Recognition of LEPC Members and Visitors

Old Business

Exercises/Training/Conferences

Emergency Coordinator's Report on Progress of Site Specific Planning Project

Filing of 2010 Tier 2 Forms

Brainstorm on Critical Facilities List

New Business

Severe Weather/Flooding Preparedness

National Weather Service Data Collection

Snow Emergency for Blizzard of February 1&2, 2011

Other Business

Other Business Old or New

Next Meeting: May 19, 2011, at Athens Community Park

Motion to Adjourn

Sangamon Valley LEPC

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MINUTES OF THE SANGAMON VALLEY LEPC MEETING – March 17, 2011

Call to Order - The Chair, David Butt, called the meeting to order at 8:38 am, at the State Fire Marshal's Office Auditorium, 1035 Aldai Stevenson Drive, Springfield IL 62703.

Members present included: David Butt, Sangamon County Office of Emergency Management (OEM); Roger Cruse, Ameren Illinois; Amy Eden, American Red Cross (ARC); Tracy Garrison, Sangamon County GIS; Larry Graf, Menard County EMS; Matt Helms, Springfield Fire Department (retired); Dean Heyen, Menard County Department of Public Health; Pat Metz, City Water, Light & Power (CWLP); Billy Ousley, National Weather Service (NWS); Louie Rogers, St. John's Hospital/Riverton Fire Department; Jim Strutz, Illinois Water/Waste Water Agencies Response Network; Rick Weber, Springfield Fire Department (SFD) and Linda Wheeland, Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission.

Approval of the Minutes - Minutes from the LEPC meeting of January 20, 2011, were distributed via e-mail prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Linda Wheeland, seconded by Pat Metz and approved unanimously to accept the minutes from our last meeting.

Introductions - Self-introductions were made by the members in attendance. Kathy Allen, Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Randy Burge, Sherman Emergency Management Agency and Linda Swartz, Sangamon County Department of Public Health, joined us as visitors.

Old Business

Exercises/Training/Conferences – Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport will be holding its full scale exercise on May 4 at Lincoln Park in Springfield. Springfield Police Department facilitated a tabletop exercise (TTX) on cyber security on February 9 with an after action report workshop on March 9. There were 5 LEPC members participating in the TTX. A second TTX on cyber security will be held on July 14 at Dove Conference Center. Jim Strutz spoke about training being conducted by Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) at Springfield. IFSI has a Command and General Staff course which satisfies requirements for ICS 300 and 400. CWLP hosted one of these classes in February. Another will be held at the Dept. of Agriculture on March 21-25. There is a position-specific course for the Safety Officer role being held at CWLP on March 28-31. The Chair and Matt Helms will be attending the Winnebago LEPC Midwest Emergency Preparedness and Response Conference at Rockford on May 4-6. Tracy Garrison will be attending the Illinois GIS Association Conference, titled "GIS in Action...in Disasters...in Preparation" in Champaign on April 19-20. Kathy Allen has allowed us to amend our LEPC spending plan to cover the cost of Tracy's conference.

Emergency Coordinator's Report on the Site Specific Planning Project – Before Matt's report, the Chair gave the floor to Pat Metz. Pat told the committee that when Matt delivered the updated CWLP site plan to SFD's Hazmat Team, he coordinated for the Team to take a tour of the new Chemical Feed Building at the plant. That tour led to arrangements for SFD to obtain a second access to the plant from the west in emergency response using a converted railroad bridge over I-55 leading to a vacated area where equipment could be staged. Given our prevailing westerly winds, this will be a major enhancement for response to a chemical emergency. Matt humbly accepted the accolades bestowed upon him and gave his report. He thanked Pat for his efforts helping toward completion of the annual CWLP update. Matt also updated plans for Strawn Fertilizer and Christian County FS. He has begun working on the new site specific plan for Custom Chemical Engineering (CCE). Aerial photography provided by Tracy showing where CCE is situated was circulated among the committee. CCE stores Phenol and within the area of its plume we have a residential subdivision, youth softball diamonds, youth soccer fields, the Children's Safety Village and an active railroad. This one photograph sums up the importance of our LEPC mission.

Tier 2 Forms – The deadline for reporting on chemical storage during 2010 was March 1. The LEPC has received 122 of our expected 141 Tier 2 forms. We have all 14 Tier 2 forms expected for Menard County. For EHS chemicals, we have 76 of our expected 81 Tier 2 forms. Strawn Fertilizer has not filed theirs despite recently working with Matt on a plan update. McLeodUSA/Paetec has not filed forms for its 3 locations in Springfield despite guidance from Matt that all are required even though they vacated one site during the year. With Frontier Communications (formerly Verizon North) in Chatham, we have asked for a second evaluation of whether a Tier 2 is required based on whether there is at least 500 pounds of pure Sulfuric Acid being stored. At least 11 of our missing Tier 2 forms for non-EHS chemicals are from crude oil wells in eastern Sangamon County. Kathy noted that several large crude oil operators across the state have missed the deadline.

Critical Facilities List – Tracy Garrison maintains a critical facilities list for Sangamon County. The LEPC last looked at this in 2006. A copy of this list accompanies these minutes. Since the January meeting, members have been offering updates to this list. Please continue doing this through the May meeting by e-mailing your additions and corrections to the Chair. Tracy discussed how this type of gathered information is protected against Freedom of Information Act inquiries. Amy Eden will identify locations with current ARC shelter agreements in both Sangamon and Menard Counties. Larry Graf, Dean Heyen and Tracy will carry a message to the GIS program manager in the Menard County Assessor's office for a similar project.

New Business

Severe Weather/Flood Preparedness – The first week of March was Severe Weather Preparedness Week. We are currently in Flood Safety Awareness Week. For Illinois, current flood concerns are to the east along the Ohio and Wabash Rivers. After further snow melt in Minnesota and Wisconsin, concern will shift to the west for the Mississippi River. Our Sangamon River will only go into flood if we have a broad downpour in our drainage basin. The Chair told everyone that the NWS Web-site hydrology page now includes the South Fork River gauge near Rochester. Billy Ousley and Larry spoke of the benefit from the automated gauge that is now in operation at Petersburg.

NWS Data Acquisition/Blizzard of Feb. 1-2 – Billy focused his information about data acquisition to the snow storm on February 1-2. He explained how the phenomenon of thunder snow will cause pockets of heavier snowfall within areas that otherwise have uniform depths. Reliable measurement of snowfall during this event was crucial to being considered for a Federal snow emergency. He explained how he provides training for persons who have become part of his data acquisition network. Billy has agreed to bring an audio-visual presentation of the February 1-2 blizzard to our next meeting in May.

Other Business

Springfield Area Transportation Study (SATS) – Linda Wheeland has the SATS Public Participation Plan available for review and comment at several locations. The Chair asked our members to look over this Plan at www.sscrc.com and offer their comments before April 29.

Red Cross Month – Amy told everyone that March is Red Cross month. Our Illinois Capital Area Chapter is having its annual Heroes Breakfast at 8:00 am on March 25. There are still tickets available.

Meeting Closure – The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for 8:30 am, May 19, 2011, at the Athens Community Park. Larry will provide a projector and screen for Billy's presentation. There being no further business, a motion was made by Louie Rogers, seconded by Tracy Garrison and approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 am.